

METROPOLITAN LINE CUTS DOWN SALARIES

Conductors and Drivers Notified of a Big Reduction at Once.

THE MEN TAKEN BY SURPRISE

Wages Lowered from \$2 to \$1.65 for 12 3-4 Hours' Continuous Work.

Strikes May Follow the Summary Action of President Phillips—Employees Tunned by the News but Threaten to Stop the Car Wheels, for Hours Today—Excitement and Indignation Among the Men.

The striking and whining electric motors, with which it is proposed to operate the Metropolitan Street Railway in the future, are casting their fatal shadows ahead.

At high noon yesterday the drivers and conductors on both branches of the Metropolitan Street Railway, were notified that their salaries had been reduced to go into effect at once.

The reduction for the regular men will be from \$2 to \$1.65 per day for twelve and three-quarter hours of continuous work, alike in sunshine and rain, in cold and heat. The reduction of the pay of extra, or "swing men," and other employees will be at the same ratio.

The notification was so sudden yesterday that the men were taken totally by surprise, without any opportunity of formulating counter action. Excitement and indignation, however, ran high among the employees at what they termed President Phillips' undue haste in imposing a reduction and its attendant deprivation upon the faithful employees at the very threshold of a new year.

The air was full of strike talk and mutiny last night when Times reporters boarded several of the green cars and talked with their conductors and drivers.

"I don't believe there will be any cars taken out in the morning," said a stalwart driver. "For one, an unwillingness to accept the snap action of the company in reducing our pay to a starvation level by refusing to take a cent out of the wheels to-morrow."

"Not a wheel out of the Metropolitan system until the wages are restored," said a conductor who stood on the platform.

On another car boarded by a Times reporter an old man known in railway parlance as a "swingman," said with some feeling: "I have a family consisting of a wife and six children, and for the six trips I will be required to make daily under the new schedule I will receive only 96 cents. That is surely a mighty gloomy outlook almost at the commencement of the holidays."

Another driver, who is required to make seven trips each day will receive but \$1.15 per day. The regulars are expected to work about thirteen hours each day, while the hours of the "swingmen" range from ten to twelve.

"Will there be a strike?" was asked by a Times reporter, addressing a group of drivers and conductors late last night.

"I don't know," said the strikers. "Several of the men answered with a hearty 'No,'" while others said there should be a general tie-up of the entire line to teach the company a lesson. It was suggested, also, and the suggestion will no doubt be carried out, that a meeting of the employees be called to decide upon what steps should be taken. From the temper of the men last night it was clearly evident that they do not propose to tamely submit to the reduction.

A paper was hastily drawn up by some of the men, and signed by them, this morning and handed to The Times for publication. It reads:

"We, the undersigned, employees of the Metropolitan Railway, in protest at having our pay reduced from \$2 to \$1.65 for twelve and three-quarter hours work. We think Congress passed a bill some years ago for men on railroad, to only work ten or twelve hours per day.

"President Phillips claims that the expenses are going to be so great for constructing the electric trolley cars that it became necessary to reduce salaries at once. We say when the road is completed, however, they will be restored to \$2 per day. We think it is a fair thing to do for a workman. It is known as a matter of wages. The company appears to have a full amount of funds. We have evidence of this look at the local cars used."

ON THE SIXTH STREET BRANCH. "The question now arises, in this cold, biting weather, how are the regulars going to live on \$1.65 per day and the swingmen on 96 cents to \$1.15, pay house rent, buy fuel, food, and clothe their wives and little ones, not to mention the purchase of uniform suits for themselves."

A driver, who for obvious reasons conceals his name, writes: "I am a poor married man with a wife and four children to support. I pay \$11 per month rent, and only work six days each week, being signed off every seventh day. My weekly pay will thus be \$3.90, or about \$4 the year around, without allowing for sick leave, etc. I have been driving on the road for more than three years, and this is the lowest I have ever seen the wages."

As another means of reducing expenses in advance of the putting in of the electric motor power, an order was posted in the company's stables and yards last night notifying the employees that heretofore no pollution or other persons would be allowed to ride free.

WASHINGTONIANS MAY TRY.

Visual Exception Waived in Examination for Assistant Stenographer.

The usual exception debarring residents of District of Columbia has been waived in regard to the special examination to be held January 15, for the place of assistant stenographer in the Department of Agriculture and for positions of aids of sections in the Division of Statistics of the same department.

This waiver is due to the desire on the part of the secretary of Agriculture and the civil service commissioners to secure the highest order of ability for the place unrestricted by any limitations.

Popular Active in Mississippi. JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 13.—At a secret conference last night behind closed doors, the popular leaders of Mississippi decided to place a full ticket in the field for every office from constable of each of the various counties up to the governor of the State at the coming election.

No Gambling Allowed. MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 13.—Judge Jenkins has issued an order prohibiting the gambling of the wages of an employee of the Northern Pacific road during the life of the restreintment.

An Echo of the Strike. CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—P. W. Phelan, who was Detroit's lieutenant in managing the strike here last summer, was liberated from jail to-day, having served a sentence of six months for contempt of court.

No Racing at Birmingham. BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 13.—Birmingham's motor racing meeting, which began ten days ago, has collapsed.



"Me and My Gas Company."

HEROIC DR. NEVITT TO BE REMEMBERED

Washington Owes Him a Lasting Debt of Gratitude.

SMALLPOX HOSPITAL HERO

Definite Action May Shortly Be Taken by Citizens.

Near Approach of His Marriage to Ex-Commissioner Hine's Daughter—It May Be Selected as the Occasion for Demonstrating the Esteem in Which He Is Held—Commissioners Express Their Appreciation.

Dr. J. Ramsay Nevitt, who shut the doors of the smallpox hospital behind him, Wednesday last after weeks of heroic exertions in the cause of humanity, has demonstrated to Washington the stuff of which physicians are made.

There is a general feeling that Washington owes him a debt of gratitude which should find expression in some public way. It is very probable that some definite steps in this direction may be taken within a few days by leading citizens, who, in view of the approach of Dr. Nevitt's marriage to ex-Commissioner Hine's daughter, may make it the occasion for a public demonstration.

Several of the men answered with a hearty "No," while others said there should be a general tie-up of the entire line to teach the company a lesson. It was suggested, also, and the suggestion will no doubt be carried out, that a meeting of the employees be called to decide upon what steps should be taken. From the temper of the men last night it was clearly evident that they do not propose to tamely submit to the reduction.

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SLUMP INTO THE SEA.

Villages Drowned By Seismic and Volcanic Disturbances in the New Hebrides Group.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 13.—The Australian steamer Wairarapa, which arrived yesterday, brings startling news that a majority of the islands of the New Hebrides group are passing through a baptism of fire, earthquakes, and volcanic disturbances, threatening the very existence of several of the largest and best islands, including Ambrim, celebrated for the existence of an extinct volcano.

On the 13th of November an earthquake shook Ambrim from east to west, causing the ground on which stood a small native village to slump with the houses of the inhabitants into the sea.

THE CURRENCY PLAN. It is Still Under Discussion by the Financiers at the Capital.

The hearings before the Banking and Currency Committee are dividing in attraction and interest. There was barely a quorum in attendance when the committee met yesterday. Letters were read from W. B. Dana, of the New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle, and R. B. Ferris, of the Bank of New York, expressing doubt as to the wisdom of pending plan.

President Corwell, of the New York Banking Association, thought the greenbacks and Treasury notes outstanding should be redeemed, but that he would perform this redemption with low-rate bonds. He also said he did not consider that part of Secretary Carlisle's plan relating to the retirement of Treasury notes sufficiently definite.

He said that a return to State bank notes would bring about a revival of counterfeiting, now reduced to a minimum. He was at the head of a State bank, yet he thought uniformity in the currency and in banking could best be secured by a national system.

In the afternoon a paper from Mr. A. B. Hepburn, of New York, ex-comptroller of the currency, was read, in which he argued in favor of the Baltimore plan.

A paper was read by Mr. William Dorrance, of the New York Journal of Commerce, who regarded the Carlisle bill unfavorably, and went at length into an exhaustive presentation of the methods of banking in this country, and found that the present financial condition were due, among other things, to the fact that the bond form of guarantee has been found incompatible with the elasticity of issue; that owing to the restrictive character of the national bank notes cannot be readily augmented to meet public emergencies, and that for these and other reasons the national bank circulation had shrunk to one-half its former volume, while the public requirements for money have been increasing.

He said that it was manifestly desirable to adopt a course least likely to disturb existing banking arrangements that need no change, but that the power of issuing notes should be conceded to the banks operating under State laws, conditioned upon the terms that they shall conform to the terms of issue imposed upon the national banks, thereby securing from all banks a uniform circulation.

FOR ELECTION EXPENSES. In 1893 voters sent two more checks to the Ingham Coffer, one for \$50 and one for \$75. Witness said that these were for the same purpose.

Mr. Goff then led the witness to state that the city condemned several taps as unsafe, and they were auctioned off. One of these had been bought in and taken into the customer's service.

Harry Miner, the theatrical manager and congressman-elect from the Ninth district, was also a witness. He testified that he drew his check for \$1,000 for Capt. Creighton's "benefit," and Capt. Creighton gave him notes for the money.

"And has that been paid?" "Not fully. Capt. Creighton has paid no more money every month, and I pay it out to those people who made up the \$15,000."

KILLED THE INFORMER. Another Murder Due to the South Carolina Dispensary Law.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 13.—William M. Norton, a white man and ex-politician, to-day shot and killed James Middleton without apparent provocation.

It is believed that the cause of the shooting was that Middleton had reported that Norton was dealing in contraband whiskey, in violation of the dispensary law.

Norton refuses to make any statement.

Must Be a Suspension Bridge. Secretary Lamont in a letter addressed yesterday to the presidents of the New York and New Jersey Bridge Company, in answer to their notice that they have contracted to build a cantilever bridge upon a pier in the river across the Hudson at New York, has informed them that he must require that any bridge so built shall have a single span across the entire river, which will necessitate a suspension bridge.

Celebrating Religious Freedom. BOSTON, Dec. 13.—Ten thousand persons marched in procession through the streets this evening in order to celebrate the passage of the religious bills. Of this number 5,000 carried torches.

More Quick Justice. NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 13.—A special to the Banner says that a negro who murdered a boy near Williamson, S. C., was taken from the custody of an officer and lynched by a mob to-day.

GOFF GRADUALLY GOING UP HIGHER.

Damaging Testimony Drawn Out Against Superintendent Byrnes.

HE WANTED NO "EYE OPENERS."

And Paid No Attention to a List of Gambling Places.

Michael Moran Was Engaged in the Towing Business but Did Not Work Except Draw \$3.50 a Day and Pay Out a Part of It to Richard Croker—Congressman-elect Miner on the Stand—Max Kaufmann Testifies.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Father Dugoy occupied his old seat in the courtroom when the inquiry was resumed after noon.

Max Kaufmann was again called to the stand. He stated that he sent a letter to Superintendent Byrnes, giving him a list of the gambling places in the precinct, but no attention had been paid to it. He also called the attention of Inspector McLaughlin to the matter.

The witness went on to state that he was employed in the department of public works on a salary of \$2.50 per day. He did not know what his duties were supposed to be, as he never did anything himself and saw about sixty others who never did anything more.

Michael Moran, who is in the towing business for the city, was asked: "What commissioner put you at the work?" "Commissioner Coleman."

"Did he make any agreement with you when you were appointed to the work as cheap as I could and not to give up any money to any one. He said if I did he would put me out."

"Well, did you ever give up any money?" "Only for political purposes."

"Well, who did you give it to?" "To Mr. Croker, I suppose."

"Richard Croker?" "Yes."

Mr. Goff fumbled with his papers a few minutes, and then produced a canceled check dated October 29, 1891, which was drawn to the order of Richard Croker, and bore his endorsement.

"Well, what was this given to Mr. Croker for?" "For the fourth of July celebration."

Mr. Goff then produced another check for \$50 dated October 29, 1891, which was drawn to the order of Richard Croker, and bore his endorsement.

"And has that been paid?" "Not fully. Capt. Creighton has paid no more money every month, and I pay it out to those people who made up the \$15,000."

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MAY BE A BIG STRIKE.

Serious Differences Between Managers of the Southern Railway System and Their Engineers, Conductors, and Firemen.

There is trouble brewing between the employees and officials of the Southern Railway Company.

For the last four or five days representatives of the conductors, engineers, and firemen of the whole Southern railway system have been in conference in this city and have been meeting at the northwest corner of D and Seventh streets. About fifty delegates are in attendance.

The conference, it is understood, have met to ask the Southern Railway Company that they grant contracts to the employees similar to those entered into by the old Richmond and Danville railway. The demand for these contracts was made by the chief of General Manager Green and Mr. Baldwin.

It is stated that these offers declined to accede to the requests of the conference. This refusal has been a cause of indignation, and the chief officers of the orders of engineers, conductors, and firemen have been sent for, and will be here during the latter part of the week.

It is reported that the members of the conference are ready for a strike all along the line, but have no authority to order one, and hence the request that the representatives come on to Washington. Unless the situation changes materially there seems to be no doubt that the strike may take place.

WILL AROUSE THE VETERANS.

Senator Daniels Places Jubel Early Ahead of All Confederate or European Commanders—The Valley Campaign.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 13.—It is safe to say that no incidents in connection with the late Confederate States war, since it occurred, will have a more sensational interest than the oration delivered this evening by United States Senator John W. Daniel, before the Virginia Division of the Army of Northern Virginia, on "The Valley Campaign of General A. Early."

The statements and criticisms made by the orator were such that they challenge attention of leading military critics in both the Federal and Confederate sides, and the subordinate places he ascribes to such Confederate leaders as Joseph E. Johnston, Albert Sidney Johnston, and Beauregard, will arouse a storm of comment throughout the South.

The orator reviewed Early's career and after giving the roll of his successful battles said: "The march of Early from Cold Harbor to Washington and back to Virginia between the 13th of June and the 14th of July is for length and rapidity without a parallel in our own or any modern war."

"It took Sherman nearly three months to get over three hundred miles from Atlanta to Savannah, with less proportional impediments. Grant's division of Washington's army marched seventy-two miles in twenty-four hours to Talavera, but never did twenty miles in a day. Early, on the other hand, has been able to do it, and did Napoleon's part in a few days."

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FIFTY MASKED MEN.

They Stopped a Train Near Paducah and Demanded a Colored Murderer—Officers Saved Their Men.

PADUCAH, Ky., Dec. 13.—Fifty masked men boarded the Chesapeake, Ohio and Southwestern train at a crossing on the outskirts of the town early this morning and attempted to take Sam Owens, the colored murderer of Sam Ogilvie, on his way to the Edgelyville penitentiary to serve a life sentence.

The airbrakes were cut and several shots fired. Windows and doors of the car were smashed and the mob rushed in with drawn revolvers.

Deputy Grady was knocked down with a club. The officers were powerless to resist the attack, but defended their men safely till the train could be started.

When this was done the mob left the train without securing the murderer.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S PORTFOLIO.

List of the New Members—Halfax Banks Invading St. John's.

St. John's, N. F., Dec. 13.—The new government resumed office this afternoon. It is made up as follows: Mr. Green, prime minister and attorney general.

Mr. Howard, colonial secretary. Mr. Scott, receiver general.

Mr. Thompson, surveyor general. Mr. Harvey, without portfolio, leader in the upper house.

It is understood that the policy of the government will be to do the best for the people of the province. Another Halifax bank is leading efforts to establish a branch here. It is thought a third bank will be started soon. It is hoped that Montreal banks will intervene. The local banks keep closed. No statement as to their liabilities has not yet been published.

JOHN BURNS WILL COME.

He is Scheduled to Visit Washington December 29-30.

DENVER, Col., Dec. 13.—Upon the assembling of the convention of the American Federation of Labor to-day the executive committee submitted the following schedule of dates for meetings to be addressed by John Burns to be substituted for the one submitted yesterday:

Omaha, December 17; Chicago, 19; St. Louis, 21; Indianapolis, 22; Cincinnati, 23; Louisville, Ohio, 24; St. Paul, 25; Pittsburgh, 27; Washington, 29-30; Philadelphia, 31, and Boston, January 2. The report was adopted.

WANT TO SEE CLEVELAND.

Friends of Armenia Will Endeavor to Get a Commission.

BOSTON, Dec. 13.—A delegation from the United Friends of Armenia, composed of Dr. B. Brown, editor of the Christian Register, Dr. Blackwell and C. H. Colman, left this city to-night for Washington, where they will endeavor to confer with President Cleveland in regard to the Armenian massacre, and will also attempt to secure the appointment of an American, together with an interpreter from this country, to investigate into the massacre at Sassoun.

Manning the Mi neapolis. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—The cruiser Minneapolis, the fastest ship in the world, went into commission to-day. At present there were 135 men ready to go into service on the big cruiser, and as it will require about 430 men to man the ship, it is expected that it will be some time before she leaves this port.

They Want More Conventions. ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 13.—There was incorporated with the secretary of State to-day the Law Enforcement Society of the City of Brooklyn and County of Kings. It declares its objects to be a more efficient enforcement of law in Kings county and Brooklyn. Its trustees include citizens well known in business, political and religious circles.

A Kearney Bank Closed. KEARNEY, Neb., Dec. 13.—The Kearney National Bank closed its doors this morning. The liabilities, as near as can be now ascertained, are about \$125,000. The county loses \$10,000 and the city \$2,000.

Jean Macé. PARIS, Dec. 13.—Jean Macé, the French literature and senator, is dead.

SHERIFF STOPPED A SLUGGING MATCH

Veitch, of Alexandria, Prevented Pierce and Dolan's Bout.

DEAF TO ALL ENTREATIES

Half an Hour's Persuasion Was Wasted Upon the Law Officer.

Crowd of Assembled Sports Pleaded, Egged, and Swore—It Had No Effect—They Had Faid Their Money and Wanted to See Some "Fun," but Had to Go Home Disgranted and Disgusted With the Law.

The strong arm of the law was put between the glowered fists of Jack Dolan and Eddie Pierce at the Berke Athletic Club last night, and notwithstanding any amount of law work and heavy kicking from the sporting fraternity, gathered there it did not come down until the fighters had dispersed.

Early in the evening a crowd of about 200 sporting men, many well known in Washington, gathered in the clubhouse to witness what was quietly announced on the side as "hot stuff," which means in prize parlance that eyes were likely to be closed, noses to be belated with blood, and perhaps some lights to be put out during the "go."

The crowd on the programme was between Dick Kello and young Switzer, both of Baltimore, and very pretty they looked when they stepped into the squared circle. Mr. Kello, of this city, acted as referee, and at the top of the bell the men stepped to the front and traveled around each other in a pretty lively style.

The referee in every box they struck and during six rounds they jolled the crowd into the finest sort of humor for the knock-out event expected to come. Before the sixth round was over the crowd was so excited that the referee, who was no dissent because every body wanted to see Jack Dolan in the ring.

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